

09/836,976

00RE098/ALBRP211US

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Applicants' representative notes with appreciation the indication that claims 1-26 are allowable. Accordingly, independent claim 27 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter indicated by the Examiner in the Office Action dated December 14, 2005. A version of all pending claims is found at pages 2-7. Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments herein.

I. Rejection of Claim 27 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claim 27 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Linder (US 5,697,473). Applicants' representative respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection for at least the following reasons. This rejection is moot in view of the amendment to independent claim 27 to include allowable subject matter as indicated by the Examiner. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063[ALBRP211US].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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